

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.*

### **Residents of Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 19.2% (22,277) of these reside in the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District. 1.1% (258) of admissions from the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to substance abuse treatment services from the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 75% were male and 25% were female.
- 64% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 47% were white non-Latino, 30% were black non-Latino, 18% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 73% were never married, 9% were married, and 18% reported not to be married now.
- 33% had less than high school education, 49% completed high school, and 18% had more than high school education.
- 12% were employed.
- 40% were homeless.
- 20% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	37%	47%	4%	3%	5%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2003</b>							
<b>Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	21,116	16,147	5,879	8,821	6,422	6,934	4,311
<b>FY '96</b>	21,924	16,350	5,761	8,463	6,348	7,475	4,446
<b>FY '97</b>	23,209	17,727	5,747	7,894	6,486	7,637	4,856
<b>FY '98</b>	23,352	17,213	5,575	7,137	5,371	8,664	5,599
<b>FY '99</b>	22,395	16,538	5,128	6,912	5,057	8,683	5,491
<b>FY '00</b>	22,340	16,263	4,922	6,448	4,613	8,935	5,651
<b>FY '01</b>	23,566	16,461	5,215	6,343	4,262	10,386	6,096
<b>FY '02</b>	23,807	15,774	4,765	6,237	4,200	11,481	7,506
<b>FY '03</b>	22,277	14,282	4,320	5,967	3,823	11,393	8,321

### **Heroin and Injection Drug Use**

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Eighteenth Suffolk Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

